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# We Are ... Marshall, September 5, 2008

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# WE ARE... MARSHALL®

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MARSHALL UNIVERSITY • SEPTEMBER 5, 2008

## *Kmiec Named MIIR Director Beginning in January*



*Dr. Eric Kmiec*

Dr. Eric Kmiec, Professor of Biology at the University of Delaware and Director of Applied Genomics at the Delaware Biotechnology Institute, has been named the first Director and Lead Research Scientist of the Marshall University Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (MIIR), President Stephen J. Kopp has announced. Kmiec begins his duties at Marshall in January 2009.

MIIR is a new research and development program at Marshall that will focus on biotechnology,

biomanufacturing, nanotechnology and niche areas of applied molecular research. It is expected to intensify and accelerate the rate at which Marshall's research reaches the marketplace, thus benefiting the university and the state. Kmiec will be responsible for assembling the team of interdisciplinary research scientists who will comprise the core of the institute.

The passage this year of a legislative initiative to create a \$50 million endowment fund to be invested in research at Marshall and West Virginia University and patterned after Kentucky's highly successful "Bucks for Brains" program was a major factor in Kmiec's decision to accept the position at Marshall.

"Certainly, it is extremely attractive to know that the state and particularly President Kopp have advanced this idea, building on other programs around the country," Kmiec said. "The research endowment and the state support, particularly from the Legislature and Gov. Joe Manchin, was an important part of the decision to join the team here."

Kmiec is widely recognized as a pioneer of gene repair, a technique in which synthetic DNA molecules are used to patch or repair mutations in human chromosomes. He has trained numerous postdocs and graduate students in the field of molecular medicine. He also has received numerous research and community service awards. Research in his laboratory is supported through multiple grant funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), private research foundation and Discovery program at High Q foundation. He owns more than 60 issued patents or patent applications and has founded several biotechnology companies. Kmiec also is managing editor of *Frontiers in Bioscience*, and recently joined the editorial board of the *Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine*.

Kopp said he is "ecstatic" that Kmiec has agreed to serve as MIIR's first director. He said he expects, under Kmiec's leadership, that a focused program of pioneering research dedicated to producing patentable scientific

breakthroughs will be developed. Importantly, this program will build on existing areas of strength and provide opportunities for pioneering research collaborations with scientists already working at Marshall University.

"If you look at Dr. Kmiec's experience in applied research leading to research-based economic development, he has been very successful," Kopp said. "His area of expertise fits exactly what we need in the development of the biosciences. He is a grant-funded scientist who has the ability to build a successful team, leading to discoveries that are patentable and communicably viable. He has tremendous leadership qualities and incredible interpersonal skills."

Kmiec said that he expects to assemble a strong team of scientists at Marshall. "We should be able to seriously impact the economic development programs in the state by creating high paying jobs, by engaging good talent around the country," he said.

At the University of Delaware, Kmiec runs a research lab that looks at some of the therapies for diseases such as Huntington's Disease, Spinal Muscular Atrophy and Muscular Dystrophy. He said years ago he became very interested in moving beyond the basic discovery side of his work and pushing it into the more applied translational side.

He explained translational programs as those "that take the bench to bedside approach. For many years, basic science

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## *Hechler Documentary to Premiere Sept. 9 and 11*

The television premiere of "Ken Hechler: In Pursuit of Justice," a two-hour documentary focusing on the career and legacy of the former West Virginia congressman and secretary of state, will take place beginning Tuesday, Sept. 9 on West Virginia Public Broadcasting.

The two-part, two-hour examination of the role of political office in 20<sup>th</sup> century America was created by filmmakers Russ Barbour and Chip Hitchcock, who began work on the project in July 2005. Part 1 of the documentary will be shown at 8 p.m. Sept. 9 and Part 2 will be shown at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 11.

A DVD of the biopic will also be used as a "premium" for donors during the station's fall fund-raising effort. Marshall University Libraries served as fiscal agent for the film and Barbara Winters, dean of libraries, was executive producer.

Winters said the program also documents the development of Hechler's views on government and his commitment to helping individuals through public service and political office. The production traces Hechler's political philosophy

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# More than 50 New Faculty Join the Herd



More than 50 new Marshall faculty members participated in orientation activities the week before classes started. New members of the faculty include Mike Andrick (Journalism and Mass Communications); Sophie Bogdanski (MU Libraries); Kelly Broce (English); Lindsay Calhoun (Communication Studies); Debra Conner (Education); Alberto Coustasse (Management/Marketing); Angela West Crews (Criminal Justice); Gordon Crews (Criminal Justice); Kathleen Cutler (English); Mark Davis (English); Scott Day (Chemistry); Laura Diener (History); Whitney Douglas (English); Gina Evans (Exercise Science, Sport and Recreation); Curt Foltz (Physics); Magdalene Fry (English); April Fugett-Fuller (Psychology); Jeffrey Garrett (Human Development and Allied Technology); Jerry Garrett (Reading); Hans Gindlesberger (Art); Markus

Hadler (Sociology); Terry Hapney (MC); Annette Howells (Chemistry); David Hyeon (Mathematics); Julie Jackson (Theatre); Ikuyo Kawada (Modern Languages); Anders Linde-Laursen (Sociology / Anthropology); Thomas Linz (Psychology); Rhonda Lucas (Nursing); Laura McCunn (Chemistry); Marie Manilla (English); Anduamlak Meharie (Anthropology); Carol Mitchell Smith (Counseling); Mike Morrison (Mathematics); Anna Mummert (Mathematics); Kenneth O'Connor (Chemistry); Steven Pauley (English); Mary Pava (Nursing); Terry Polen (Management/Marketing); David Ruiz (Exercise Science, Sport and Recreation); Paul Rutledge (Political Science); Jarrod Schenewark (Exercise Science, Sport and Recreation); Gary Schultz (Biological Sciences); Stacy Scudder (Mathematics); Joung Min Song (Mathematics); Heather Stark (Art); Thomas Stevens (CLS); Amanda Thompson (Accounting / Legal Environment); Gregg Twietmeyer (Exercise Science, Sport and Recreation); Samantha Vickers (Chemistry); Jayme Linn Waldron (Biological Sciences).

## WE ARE...**MARSHALL**®



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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall!* will carry an issue date of Sept. 19, 2008. Deadline is Sept. 12. Articles or other materials for consideration should be sent to Pat Dickson, editor, at the South Charleston campus or by e-mail to [pdickson@marshall.edu](mailto:pdickson@marshall.edu).



## Marshall One Book Activities Continue

Academic units at Marshall are continuing to present lectures and other activities to complement the reading and discussion this year's selection for the Marshall One Book, *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. The novel is about a company of American soldiers in Vietnam during 1969-70.

On Friday, Sept. 12, at 1 p.m. in the Memorial Student Center, the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Health Professions will sponsor Dr. Kara Dixon Vuic, Assistant Professor of History at Bridgewater College, to present her research on nurses in Vietnam as part of the One Book activities. Dr. Vuic's forthcoming book is *Officer. Nurse. Woman: Army Nurse Corps and the Vietnam War*.

A staged reading of *The Things They Carried*, a short play based on characters and situations from the novel, will be presented Sept. 24 through 27 at 7 p.m. in the Francis-Booth Experimental Theatre on the Huntington Campus. The project is being directed by Professor Lang Reynolds, who is himself a Vietnam veteran.

### Reminder: Don't Be Seen Without Your Green

Marshall University fans, students, faculty and staff are reminded of the tradition begun last year of wearing Marshall green every Friday during the school year.

This year's observance of Green Fridays began Aug. 29, which Gov. Joe Manchin III proclaimed College Colors Day in West Virginia.

## Yard Sale Set for Sept. 29 and 30

Marshall University will hold a fall "yard sale" Sept. 29 and 30 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the east end of the Art Warehouse at 201 21<sup>st</sup> Street. No further items will be picked up because of space limitations, according to Carol Skaggs, receiving supervisor.

Among items to be offered are office furniture, files, chairs, printers, desks and many other items. In addition, there is an 8 X 10 storage building and a large assortment of stainless steel cafeteria equipment. There's even a large buffalo with lights and two basketball goals.

For more information, contact Skaggs at 66678 or at [skaggs@marshall.edu](mailto:skaggs@marshall.edu).

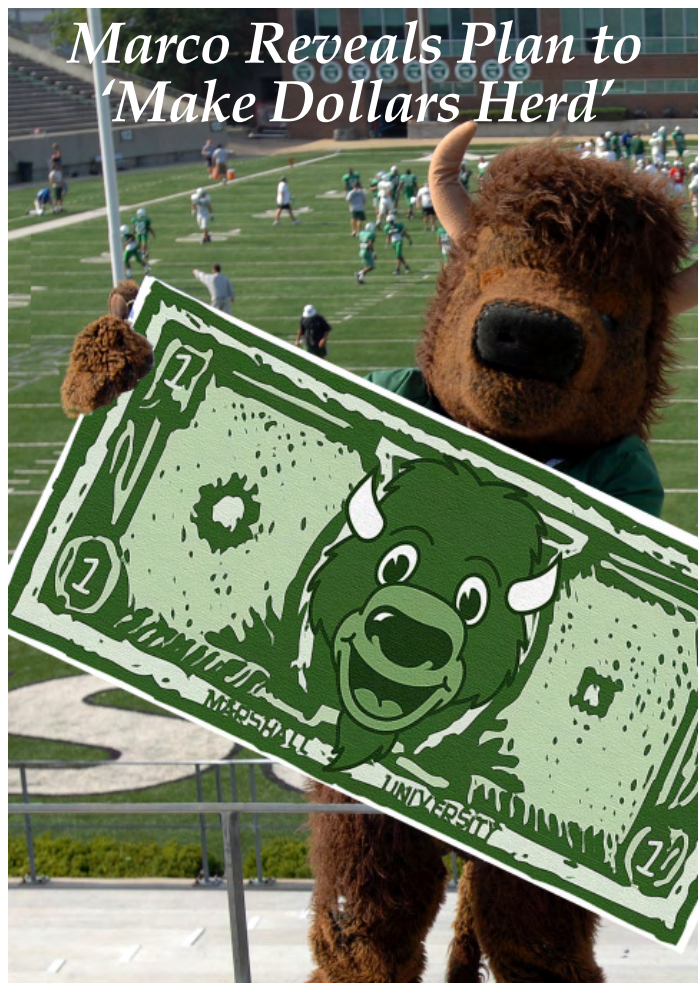
## Faculty/Staff Achievements

Professor of Physics **Dr. Thomas E. Wilson** presented a paper at *Acoustics'08*, a joint international conference on acoustics held from June 29-July 4, 2008 at the Palais de Congrès in Paris, France. The abstract of Wilson's 30-minute oral presentation in the PA15 *Ultrafast Acoustics* session, "Progress on coherent generation of terahertz acoustic phonons by resonant absorption of nanosecond-pulsed far-infrared laser radiation in silicon doping superlattices", has been published in the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* **123**, 3549 (2008) (<http://scitation.aip.org/POMA>). Wilson acknowledges the support of the National Science Foundation under ECCS grant 0622060.

**Dr. William P. Marley**, Professor and Director of Human Performance Laboratory Programs, **recently had three papers accepted for presentation at the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation**

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## Marco Reveals Plan to 'Make Dollars Herd'



Marco has outlined plans for a campaign to encourage faculty and staff members to contribute at least a dollar a week to support Marshall University students and programs, according to Rebecca McPhail Samples, assistant vice president for development.

"We are encouraging faculty and staff at Marshall University to join together in supporting the University," said Samples, "to demonstrate that the university family is dedicated to the continued growth of Marshall." Employees can learn more about supporting the campaign at a kick off event at the Huntington Campus on Sept. 8. Additional events are set for Sept. 15 at the South Charleston campus and the Mid-Ohio Valley Center.

For more information, contact the Office of Development at ext. 6-3292.

### 'Bodyworks' Art Exhibit Continues Through Sept. 12

Twelve regional women artists are exhibiting their art in *Bodywork* in the Birke Art Gallery in conjunction with the Feminist Art Project.

The Feminist Art Project is a collaborative national initiative celebrating the Feminist Art Movement and the aesthetic, intellectual and political impact of women on the visual arts, art history, and art practice, past and present.

Former Marshall Assistant Professor Claire Sherwood is the Feminist Art Project coordinator for this region. She started holding open meetings at the Huntington Museum of Art in May 2008.

The artists of *Bodywork* were chosen by Sherwood and Katherine Cox, Director of Education at the Huntington Museum of Art, and were based on representation of a

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## Brownfields Conference Starts Sept. 10

The third annual West Virginia Brownfields Conference will take place Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 10-11, at the Pullman Plaza Hotel in Huntington.

The conference is sponsored in part by the West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center at Marshall University. It includes multiple tracks on redevelopment and revitalization of brownfield properties in the state.

Brownfields are properties "the expansion, redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant," according to the West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center Web site at [www.wvbrownfields.org](http://www.wvbrownfields.org).

For agenda and conference registration information, visit the West Virginia Brownfields Assistance Center Web site or contact George Carico, program coordinator, at ext.65456. The West Virginia Brownfield Assistance Center at Marshall is a program of the Center for Environmental, Geotechnical and Applied Sciences (CEGAS).

## Hechler Documentary

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and subsequent actions to the progressive movement of the 1900s, and to the model President Theodore Roosevelt presented through his efforts on behalf of impoverished and disenfranchised Americans.

Considerable insight is provided by Hechler's former colleagues, including such notable public officeholders as U.S. Senators Tom Harkin, Bob Dole and George McGovern, as well as U.S. Congressmen John Brademas and James Symington. The documentary also features labor historians, reporters and several of Hechler's former students, staffers, constituents, friends and family.

The production also makes use of archival photographs, motion pictures and sound recordings, including rarely viewed news film. The documentary employs excerpts from numerous addresses, including speeches by Presidents Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt.

Winters said Marshall University's partnership role in the project included assisting the filmmakers in accessing materials located in the Ken Hechler collection at the Marshall Libraries. The university also provided an intern to work with the filmmakers during the research and filming phases.

## Bodyworks

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variety of geographic areas, ages and life experiences. Both Sherwood and Cox are displaying art in the exhibition. For Sherwood, inspiration is found in materials discarded by industry.

The exhibition runs through Thursday, Sept. 11, culminating with a slide jam and closing reception. Some of the artists will attend the closing reception, allowing the audience an opportunity to learn more about them and their work. The reception is at 7 p.m. in Smith Hall Room 154.

The Birke Art Gallery, located in Smith Hall, is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays.

In addition to Sherwood and Cox, other artists participating in the exhibition are Adrian Blackstock, Ann Silverman, Cigdem Slankard, Dawn Gavin, Emily Ritchey, Linda Helgason, Poochie Myers, Rebecca Holbrook, Kathleen Kneafsey and Ruth Bowler.

## Kmiec

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has driven great discoveries that have impacted diagnostics, optics, wonderful types of advances in human health and agriculture and many other areas," he said.

"But, there's been a tendency to stay locked at the bench. Now, the pressure from the federal government, state government and health institutions in general is to move those discoveries toward treating human disease and human afflictions."

Kmiec received his B.A. in Microbiology from Rutgers University in 1978 and his M.S. in Microbiology from Southern Illinois University in 1980. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 1984 and, after completing his postdoctoral work at the University of Rochester, held faculty positions at the University of California Davis and Thomas Jefferson University.

Kmiec is a co-founder and Chief Scientific Officer of OrphageniX, Inc., an innovative biotechnology company focused on correcting genes that cause "orphan diseases." At Marshall, he will report to MIIR's Board of Directors, headed by Kopp, and Dr. John Maher, Vice President for Research with the Marshall University Research Corp.

"I have met and worked with a lot of people in scientific research, and he is by far the most impressive because of the array of expertise and skills he brings to Marshall University," Kopp said.

Maher described Kmiec as a world-class researcher who has had significant entrepreneurial success.

"What we are putting in place in MIIR is unique in both its structure and its focus," Maher said. "It requires an individual with unique and exceptional talents to head it. We feel Dr. Kmiec has the scientific and leadership skills to make MIIR the scientific and economic development success the president envisioned. We are grateful for the state's commitment to the Bucks for Brains program which enabled us to attract a scientific leader of his caliber to Marshall."

## Faculty-Staff Achievements

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tion [AACVPR] 23rd Annual Meeting in Indianapolis IN Sept. 18 through 20, 2008:

- *The Impact of Patient-Centered Therapeutic Lifestyle Coaching on Clinical Outcomes in a Community-Based Cardiac Rehabilitation Program*
- *A Study of Patients in a Community-Based Pulmonary Rehabilitation Program*
- *Cardiac Rehabilitation Engagement in an Insured Population*

Marley also spoke at the 16th Annual Conference of the West Virginia Association of Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Rehabilitation at Flatwoods WV in May:

*Diabetes Therapeutic Lifestyle Intervention: Related Clinical Concerns*. On Nov. 10, 2007, Marley presented a keynote lecture, "Diabetes Therapeutic Lifestyle Intervention: Cardiac Autonomic Neuropathy, and Related Clinical Concerns" at the 26th annual Weekend Update for Outpatient Cardiac Rehab Nurses in Philadelphia. At that time, Dr. Marley received a Career Service Award, "for his leadership and vision" in establishing the Tri State Society for Cardiovascular & Pulmonary Rehabilitation [TSSCVPR - PA, NJ, DE] nearly 25 years ago.